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**Han**

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(54) **BACKLIGHT UNIT AND LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE HAVING THE SAME**

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**F21V 8/00** (2006.01)

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USPC ..... 349/65; 362/615, 626  
See application file for complete search history.

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**ABSTRACT**

Disclosed herein is a backlight unit in which a viewing angle of a liquid crystal display device may be easily enlarged or changed. The backlight unit includes a light source, a light guide plate formed below a liquid crystal panel and including a light emitting surface through which incident light supplied from the light source is emitted toward the liquid crystal panel, a prism sheet formed between the light guide plate and the liquid crystal panel, and a plurality of protrusion patterns formed on one surface of the light guide plate which is opposite to the light emitting surface thereof, each of the plurality of protrusion patterns including a first prism which extends in a first direction and at least one second prism which extends in a second direction intersecting with the first direction, comes into contact with the first prism, and is shorter than the first prism.

**21 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets**

